



The Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI, <https://acwi.gov/>) represents the interests of water information users and professionals in advising Federal programs working to address the Nation's water-information needs. The ACWI's goal is to improve access to and quality of water information that is needed for making sound decisions about natural resources management and environmental protection.

The duties of the ACWI are solely advisory. The group provides advice on efforts to operate a cost-effective national program of water data collection and analysis that meets the priority water information needs of the Federal Government and, to the extent possible within available resources, the needs of the non-Federal community that are tied to national interests.

### RECENT ACWI PRODUCTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Major technical conferences:
  - the **National Monitoring Conference**, hosted by the National Water Quality Monitoring Council (<https://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/>) and
  - the **Joint Federal Interagency Conference on Sedimentation and Hydrologic Modeling**, co-hosted by the Subcommittees on Sedimentation and Hydrology (<http://www.sedhyd.org/2015/>)
- The **Water Quality Portal** serves data collected by over 400 state, federal, tribal, and local agencies. The Portal is a cooperative service sponsored by the USGS and the EPA, the Water Quality Portal through the ACWI and its sub-groups, in particular the National Water Quality Monitoring Council. (<https://www.waterqualitydata.us/>)
- The **National Ground-Water Monitoring Network** contains current and historical data including water levels, water quality, lithology, and well construction. The NGWMN is a USGS effort begun through the ACWI Subcommittee on Ground Water and provides access to groundwater data from multiple, dispersed databases in a web-based mapping application. (<https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/>)
- The **National Environmental Methods Index** is an index of environmental monitoring methods assembled and made available online by the Methods and Data Comparability Board, a workgroup of the ACWI's National Water Quality Monitoring Council. (<https://www.nemi.gov/>)



- The goal of the **Open Water Data Initiative** is to integrate currently fragmented water information into a connected, national water data framework and leverage existing systems, infrastructure and tools to underpin innovation, modeling, data sharing, and solution development. At <https://acwi.gov/spatial/owdi/>, OWDI is a key focus of the Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data.
- The **Streamflow Information Collaborative** is an effort begun in 2016 to support national streamflow information network goals and priorities and to assist with leveraging existing resources and capabilities to meet streamflow information needs across the U.S. (<https://acwi.gov/hydrology/sic/>)

## MEMBERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP

The ACWI Chair is Tim Petty, the Department of the Interior (DOI) Assistant Secretary for Water and Science; the Alternate Chair is Don Cline, the USGS Associate Director for Water. The ACWI Coordinator, a USGS employee, is the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) under the standards and procedures prescribed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

ACWI members are appointed by the Chair to serve 4-year terms. Membership is representational; members are organizations rather than individuals, and each member organization designates a representative and an alternate. The ACWI is authorized to include a maximum of 35 national organizations including all levels of government, public interest groups, academia, private industry, and non-profit and professional organizations.

## ACWI SUBCOMMITTEES

The ACWI may form subcommittees and workgroups to compile information and conduct research; much of the work of the ACWI is carried out in this manner. Subcommittees must present their reports and other findings to the full ACWI before providing those products to DOI leadership. Some subcommittees are ongoing, and some are formed for a limited time, to perform a specific task. ACWI sub-groups currently include the following, each with a specific area of expertise (some of these subcommittees include multiple workgroups, not listed here):

- National Water Quality Monitoring Council
- Subcommittee on Ground Water
- Subcommittee on Hydrology
- Subcommittee on Sedimentation
- Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data
- Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup
- Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable

